

dieter, they deny the heart's fondest wish - God.

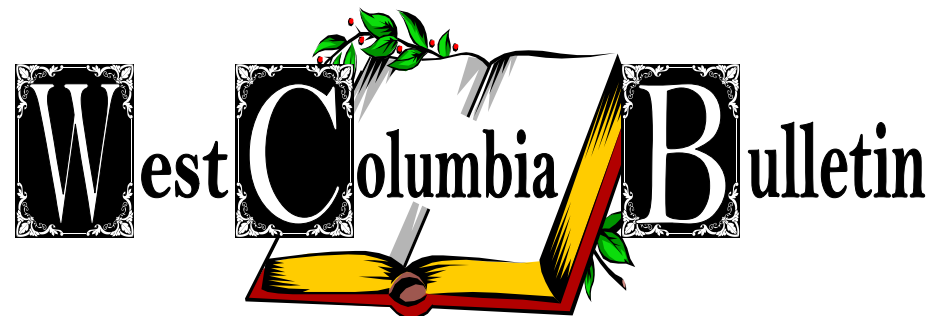
**Hunger and thirst are not quenched with candy and soda.**

When hunger pangs strike and the throat is parched, your body is crying out for protein, carbohydrates, and water, but many people turn to junk food for relief. Junk food fills the belly, but it does not nourish the body. These foods turn the body into a flabby, unhealthy mess.

Many people try to satisfy the soul's hunger for God with junk food religion. They look for churches that offers the gaudiest music, the most exciting packaging, and the most sugar-frosted doctrines. They do not want truth that will save their soul (John 8:32), they want empty-calorie religion that will just make them feel full. But, the junk religion diet will kill them spiritually just as surely as a diet of candy bars and cola will kill their body. Millions of people flock to their spiritual candy machine every Sunday and load up on sugar bomb sermons that scarcely mention the Bible. Their diet is more carnal than spiritual, and it is killing them.

**We need good food in order to live.** Peter said that we need to drink deeply of the pure milk of the word that we may grow thereby (1 Peter 2:2). Pure milk is the most basic and nutritious food. If it is watered down, or mixed with sugar, its nutritional power is diminished. Babies that are fed mother's milk grow strong and healthy, but babies who are fed sugar water grow sickly and weak. People who turn to God's word and feast on the pure milk that it gives them soon grow strong and they can move on to strong meat. Soon they are strong enough to discern good and evil (Hebrews 5:14).

Your heart is hungry for righteousness. Do not deny yourself the truth of God's word.



October 25, 2020

## HUNGER AND THIRST FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS

David Weeks

Hunger and thirst are two powerful instincts of human nature which are essential for your survival. If you never felt hunger you would never eat and you would die. If you never felt thirst, you would never drink water and you would die. The Bible tells us that we must hunger and thirst for righteousness, and if we do, we will be filled (Matthew 5:6).

**Hunger and thirst are powerful urges that force us into action.** Physical hunger and thirst in the body cannot be ignored for long. Dieters yo-yo back and forth between fat to thin for this very reason. God designed us to get energy from food, and He gave us hunger and thirst to tell us when it is time to

refuel. Dieters cannot successfully ignore their instinctive need for food for long. After the diet is over, and the weight is lost, it isn't long until hunger reasserts itself, and soon the dieter is up to his elbows in a large cheese pizza.

Neither can spiritual hunger be ignored forever. Most people are starving to death spiritually, but they ignore the signals their heart is sending them. Rather than satisfy their soul's needs with Bible study and worship, they turn to drugs, alcohol, and adultery. The soul pants for God (Psalm 42:1), and nothing else can satisfy its yearnings. People who feel "empty inside" need the word of God, but like the most disillusioned and stubborn

### Church of Christ

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Material:

[Http://www.westcolumbiatxcoc.com](http://www.westcolumbiatxcoc.com)

### Schedule Of Services...

**Sunday:**

Bible Classes 9:00 a.m.  
Worship 9:50 a.m.  
Worship 6:00 p.m.

**Wednesday:**

Bible Classes 7:00 p.m.

# Can We Be The Church That Jesus Built?

David Weak's

If men wanted to be members of the church that is described in the New Testament, could they do it? Some say no, but I say an unqualified YES! If men and women follow the pattern that is laid down in the New Testament for becoming Christians, and then if they follow the pattern given for the church of Christ, then they can be members of the church that is described in the New Testament. Denominationalism is a man-made imposter to that church.

**Time Of Origin:** The church of Christ was built by Jesus Christ (Matt. 16:18). He did not claim He would build many churches, nor did He claim He would build one church that would be made up of many different sects. Jesus' only promise was to build a church that would belong wholly to Him-

self. This is exactly what He did. His church was established on the day of Pentecost following His resurrection (see: Acts 2). Every church of men was established at some point in history after the Lord built His church.

**Divine Government:** The church of Christ is ruled by its head, the Lord Jesus Christ (Colossians 1:18). There is no human organization and no man made laws that govern the church of Christ. The churches of men, however, are ruled by various human agencies. Typically, these human agencies of government cannot agree among themselves, and the members are at the mercy of power mongers and the dictates of fallible men. You will never see the Lord's church torn asunder by a power struggle in a governing body of men.

**Divine Law:** The church of Christ has only has one creed, the New Testament, which is its only rule of faith and practice. The church of Christ has been "built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,..." (Eph. 3:20). The foundation of the apostles and prophets is the gospel the apostles preached. For this reason, members of the church of Christ demand book, chapter and verse for everything they believe or practice religiously (1Pet. 4:11). The Bible claims to be sufficient to supply every spiritual need of man, therefore, any human creed is redundant and sinful!

**Divine Organization:** The church of Christ is not organized according to any human plan. In the New Testament local churches were made up of saints, bishops, and deacons (Phil. 1:1). Notice, now, I said local churches were organized this way. That is because there is no "universal" church organization. Any organization that is more

than this simple plan is without Bible authority. In fact, this proves that the entire denominational system of our day is sinful in and of itself (1Cor. 1:10-13; 3:1-4)!

**Scriptural Worship:** Finally, the New Testament even tells how the church of Christ is to worship God. This worship is exceedingly simple by modern religious standards. There are no "bold, new, exciting" innovations, nor is there any of the rowdy, worldly excitement that characterizes so much of what is called "worship" today. Christians are to pray (Acts 2:42); sing songs, hymns, and spiritual songs (Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16), observe the Lord's supper (1Cor. 11:23-29), give of their financial means (1Cor. 16:1-2), and study God's word (Acts 20:7).

We implore you to become a member of the church of Christ, because it is the one described in the New Testament. This is a simple fact. If you will simply obey the gospel, you will be added to the church by God Himself (Acts 2:41, 47).